

Subpart B—FOIA Reading Rooms

REQUIREMENTS

§ 518.31 Reading room.

Each Component shall provide an appropriate facility or facilities where the public may inspect and copy or have copied the materials described below. In addition to the materials described below, Components may elect to place other documents in their reading room as a means to provide public access to such documents. DoD Components may share reading room facilities if the public is not unduly inconvenienced. When appropriate, the cost of copying may be imposed on the person requesting the material in accordance with the provisions of subpart F of this part. The Army FOIA Reading Room is operated by The Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Division, Information Systems Command. It is located in room 1146, Hoffman Building I, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331-0301. It is open from 0800 to 1530 Monday through Friday, except holidays.

§ 518.32 Material availability.

The FOIA requires that so-called “(a)(2)” materials shall be made available in the FOIA reading room for inspection and copying, unless such materials are published and copies are offered for sale. Identifying details that, if revealed, would create a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy may be deleted from “(a)(2)” materials made available for inspection and copying. In every case, justification for the deletion must be fully explained in writing. However, a DoD Component may publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a description of the basis upon which it will delete identifying details of particular types of documents to avoid clearly unwarranted invasions of privacy. In appropriate cases, the DoD Component may refer to this description rather than write a separate justification for each deletion. So-called “(a)(2)” materials are:

(a) Final opinions, including concurring and dissenting opinions, and orders made in the adjudication of cases, as defined in 5 U.S.C. 551 (reference (g)),

that may be cited, used, or relied upon as precedents in future adjudications.

(b) Statements of policy and interpretations that have been adopted by the agency and are not published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) Administrative staff manuals and instructions, or portions thereof, that establish DoD policy or interpretations of policy that affect a member of the public. This provision does not apply to instructions for employees on tactics and techniques to be used in performing their duties, or to instructions relating only to the internal management of the DoD Component. Examples of manuals and instructions not normally made available are:

(1) Those issued for audit, investigation, and inspection purposes, or those that prescribe operational tactics, standards of performance, or criteria for defense, prosecution, or settlement of cases.

(2) Operations and maintenance manuals and technical information concerning munitions, equipment, systems, and foreign intelligence operations.

INDEXES

§ 518.33 “(a)(2)” materials.

(a) Each DoD Component shall maintain in each facility prescribed in § 518.31, an index of materials described in § 518.4, that are issued, adopted, or promulgated, after July 4, 1967. No “(a)(2)” materials issued, promulgated, or adopted after July 4, 1967 that are not indexed and either made available or published may be relied upon, used or cited as precedent against any individual unless such individual has actual and timely notice of the contents of such materials. Such materials issued, promulgated, or adopted before July 4, 1967, need not be indexed, but must be made available upon request if not exempted under this Regulation.

(b) Each DoD Component shall promptly publish quarterly or more frequently, and distribute, by sale or otherwise, copies of each index of “(a)(2)” materials or supplements thereto unless it publishes in the FEDERAL REGISTER an order containing a determination that publication is unnecessary and impracticable. A copy of